

## Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region



With Nanning as its capital, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, which is abbreviated as "Gui", is located on the south border of China. It covers an area of over 230,000 square kilometers, and has a population of 48.30 million, including such ethnic groups as Han, Zhuang, Yao, Miao, Dong, Mulao, Maonan, Hui, Buyei, and Gin, among them Zhuang people take up 1/3 of the total population.

### ■ Geographical Features

**Topography** Mountains and hills take up a large part of Guangxi's total area. With Haiyang Shan, Yuecheng Ling in the northeast; Yunkai Dashan, Liuwan Dashan and Shiwan Dashan in the south; Duyang Shan, Fenghuang Shan, and Jiuwan Dashan in the northwest; and Dayao Shan and Daming Shan in the middle, its terrain gradually descends from the northwest to the southeast. Major rivers are Xi Jiang, Liu Jiang, Yu Jiang, Gui Jiang and Ling Qu. Plains can only be found in river valleys. Guangxi has a sinuous coast line, thus many seaports like Beihai, Fangchenggang, etc. Weizhou Dao and Xieyang Dao are two major islands along the coast.

**Climate** With Tropic of Cancer go through the autonomous region, subtropical humid monsoon climate rules the area, bringing about abundant rainfall and high temperature together with a clear distinction between dry and wet seasons. Summer here is long and hot, while winter sometimes can be very cold. Annual rainfall in this area is between 1,000~2,000mm. The average annual temperature in most part of the province is between 17~23°C, with an average temperature in January between 6~16°C, while in July between 25~29°C.

### ■ Natural Resources

Nearly 100 kinds of minerals have been found in the autonomous region, of which over 50 kinds are ranked as top ten in China. With rich reserves for a great variety of high purity non-ferrous metals, Guangxi holds the largest reserves of manganese, tin, arsenic and bentonite in China, and has many major mines.

As a major forest region in south China, Guangxi has an extensive growth of secondary forests and artificial forests. Guangxi's forest cover rate is around 34.37%. Evergreen broadleaf trees are found in natural forests, while artificial forests mainly consist of industrial trees like oil tung, aniseed, and cinnamon as well as pine trees and firs.

There are more than 530 species of birds,

over 500 species of sea fish, over 200 species of fresh water fish, over 110 species of wild animals and over 150 species of amphibian living in this area, among them over 140 kinds have been listed as first grade or second grade rare animal under national protection. Nearly 8,000 species of plants have been found here, including over 3,600 species of Chinese medicinal herbs, and over 40 species of rare plants.

### ■ Agriculture

Guangxi is one of China's major rice producing regions, and the farming of grain crops plays an important role in local agriculture. Major crops here include mainly rice, corn, soybean, potato, sugar cane, peanut, mulberry, and hemp. The northwest part of Guangxi is a grain farming area, while south Guangxi mainly produces sugar canes, banana, pineapple, rubber and sisal. Rich resources of sea fish can be found along Beibu Way(G.), where pearl and oyster are also bred.

### ■ Industry

Guangxi has built up a complete industrial system including machinery, metallurgy, power, building material, rubber, electronics, medicine, textile, paper making, brewery, and food production. It is a major sugar production base in China, with an annual sugar output higher than that of any other provinces. Guangxi is also a leader in the production of mini cars and heavy-loading trucks.

### ■ Transportation

**Railway** Centered round Liuzhou, trunk lines like Nanning-Kunming, Hengyang-Aikou, Guiyang-Liuzhou, Litang-Zhanjiang, Jiaozuo-Liuzhou, and Nanning-Fangchenggang connect Guangxi conveniently with the outside.

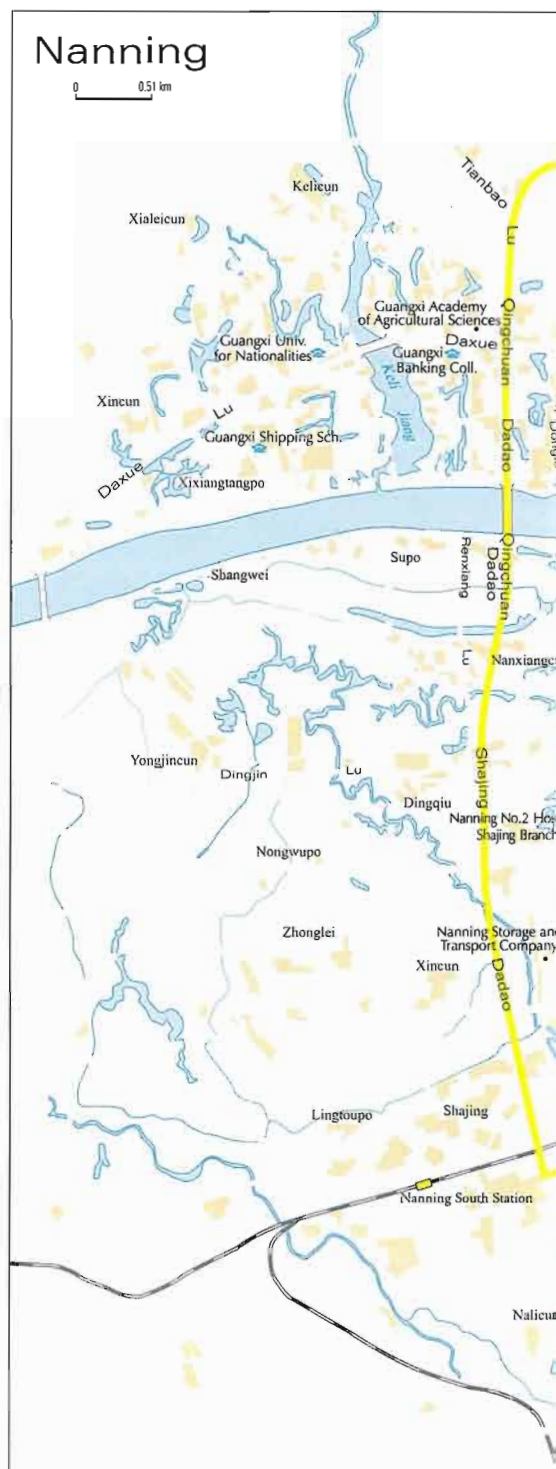
**Highway** Centered round Nanning, numerous national highways and local highways have the whole autonomous region well connected. The completion of the express highway connecting Guilin-Liuzhou-Nanning-Qinzhou-Beihai further improves local highway transportation.

**Airway** Airports have been built in Nanning, Guilin, Beihai, Liuzhou and Wuzhou, with flight courses connecting Guangxi with most major cities in China as well as neighbouring countries like Vietnam, Thailand and Japan.

**Waterway** Seaports like Beihai, Fangchenggang, and Qinzhou provide freights to ports all over the world. River ports like Wuzhou, Liuzhou and Nanning are also very busy. Wuzhou is directly connected with Hong Kong and Macau.

### ■ Places of Interest

Gorgeous natural scenery and spectacular Karst physiognomy make Guangxi a great tourist attraction. As a famous national historical and







cultural site with incomparable Karst scenery, Guilin is justifiably called the most beautiful city in China. Scenery along Li Jiang between Guilin and Yangshuo is most extraordinary, with the river winds through fantastic mountains and hills like a green silk scarf. West Mountain in Guiping is also well-known for its beautiful scenery. Mt. Huashan, which stands in Ningming County, is most notable for the dazzling frescos of people and different images with a distinctive Zhuang ethnic flavour. Cultural relics like Baise, Longsheng, Zhenwu Pavilion, Liuhou Temple and Confucian Temple are all renowned tourist attractions, while Chengyang Bridge and Mapang Drum-Tower show distinctive characteristic of Dong ethnic architecture style.

### Local Products

Guangxi is famous for producing Chinese medicinal herbs like pseudo-ginseng, aniseed and momordica grosvenori as well as taros, grapefruit, jackfruit and other fruits. Tea and wine produced here enjoy good fame traditionally. Local flavours like rice noodles and other rice dim sum are liked by many. Pearls produced in Hepu is called "Nan Zhu" (south pearl), which is considered of top grade world wide. Embroidery, shell carving, stone carving, pottery, fan, copper painting are traditional local handicrafts.

Scenery of Lijiang River

